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SECURITY COUNCIL
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Letter dated 19 June 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring to your attention new and serious Turkish actions in violation of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Republic of Cyprus. On 16 June 1997, nine Turkish warships sailed and docked at the closed ports of Famagusta and Kyrenia, in the occupied part of Cyprus. According to information received by the Government of the Republic of Cyprus two Turkish navy vessels, two submarines and one destroyer docked in the port of Famagusta, and three missile boats and one submarine docked in Kyrenia's harbour.

On behalf of my Government, I wish to protest strongly these illegal actions, which are in violation of the principles and provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, as well as United Nations resolutions, including binding decisions of the Security Council on Cyprus. Furthermore, following the Turkish invasion in 1974 and the occupation of a large part of territory of the Republic of Cyprus, the ports of Famagusta, Karavostasi and Kyrenia were declared closed by the Government to all vessels under law 265 of 3 October 1974.

Moreover, I wish to stress that these new Turkish actions are especially provocative, since they take place at a time when efforts are being made by you to hold direct talks between President Clerides and the Turkish/Cypriot leader Mr. Denktash.

I should be grateful if Your Excellency would have the present letter circulated as a document of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 58, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nicos AGATHOCLEOUS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Cyprus
to the United Nations

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